

## § 31.3123-1

of a payment that consists of transition benefits, provided that the allocation method is consistent with the terms of the plan.

[64 FR 4567, Jan. 29, 1999]

### § 31.3123-1 Deductions by an employer from remuneration of an employee.

Any amount deducted by an employer from the remuneration of an employee is considered to be part of the employee's remuneration and is considered to be paid to the employee as remuneration at the time that the deduction is made. It is immaterial that any act of Congress or the law of any State requires or permits such deductions and the payment of the amount thereof to the United States, a State, or any political subdivision thereof.

## Subpart C—Railroad Retirement Tax Act (Chapter 22, Internal Revenue Code of 1954)

### TAX ON EMPLOYEES

#### § 31.3201-1 Measure of employee tax.

The employee tax is measured by the amount of compensation received for services rendered as an employee. For provisions relating to compensation, see § 31.3231(e)-1. For provisions relating to the circumstances under which certain compensation is to be disregarded for the purpose of determining the employee tax, see paragraphs (b)(1) and (2) of § 31.3231(e)-1.

[T.D. 8582, 59 FR 66189, Dec. 23, 1994]

#### § 31.3201-2 Rates and computation of employee tax.

(a) *Rates*—(1)(i) *Tier 1 tax*. The Tier 1 employee tax rate equals the sum of the tax rates in effect under section 3101(a), relating to old-age, survivors, and disability insurance, and section 3101(b), relating to hospital insurance. The Tier 1 employee tax rate is applied to compensation up to the contribution base described in section 3231(e)(2)(B)(i). The contribution base is determined under section 230 of the Social Security Act and is identical to the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance wage base and the hospital insurance wage base, respectively,

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under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act.

(ii) *Example*. The rule in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section is illustrated by the following example.

*Example*. A received compensation of \$60,000 in 1992. The section 3101(a) rate of 6.2 percent would be applied to A's compensation up to \$55,500, the applicable contribution base for 1992. The section 3101(b) rate of 1.45 percent would be applied to the entire \$60,000 of A's compensation because the applicable contribution base for 1992 is \$130,200.

(2)(i) *Tier 2 tax*. The Tier 2 employee tax rate equals the percentage set forth in section 3201(b) of the Code. This rate is applied to compensation up to the contribution base described in section 3231(e)(2)(B)(ii).

(ii) *Example*. The rule in paragraph (a)(2)(i) of this section is illustrated by the following example.

*Example*. A received compensation of \$60,000 in 1992. The section 3201(b) rate of 4.90 percent would be applied to A's compensation up to \$41,400, the applicable contribution base for 1992.

(b)(1) *Computation*. The employee tax is computed by multiplying the amount of the employee's compensation with respect to which the employee tax is imposed by the rate applicable to such compensation, as determined under paragraph (a) of this section. The applicable rate is the rate in effect when the compensation is received by the employee. For rules relating to the time of receipt, see § 31.3121(a)-2 (a) and (b).

(2) *Example*. The rule in paragraph (b)(1) of this section is illustrated by the following example.

*Example*. In 1990, employee A received compensation of \$1,000 as remuneration for services performed for employer R in 1989. The employee tax is payable at the rate of 12.55 percent (7.65 percent plus 4.90 percent) in effect for 1990 (the year the compensation was received), and not the 12.41 percent rate (7.51 percent plus 4.90 percent) in effect for 1989 (the year the services were performed).

[T.D. 8582, 59 FR 66189, Dec. 23, 1994]

#### § 31.3202-1 Collection of, and liability for, employee tax.

(a) *Collection; general rule*. The employer shall collect from each of his employees the employee tax imposed with respect to the compensation of

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the employee by deducting or causing to be deducted the amount of such tax from the compensation subject to the tax as and when such compensation is paid. As to the measure of the employee tax, see § 31.3201-1.

(b) *Collection; payments by two or more employers in excess of annual compensation limitation.* For rules relating to payments by two or more employers in excess of the annual compensation limitation see § 31.3121(a)(1)-1.

(c) *Undercollections or overcollections.* Any undercollection or overcollection of employee tax resulting from the employer's inability to determine, at the time compensation is paid, the correct amount of compensation with respect to which the deduction should be made shall be corrected in accordance with the provisions of Subpart G of the regulations in this part relating to adjustments, credits, refunds, and abate-ments.

(d) *When fractional part of cent may be disregarded.* In collecting the employee tax, the employer shall disregard any fractional part of a cent of such tax unless it amounts to one-half cent or more, in which case it shall be increased to one cent.

(e) *Employer's liability.* The employer is liable for the employee tax with respect to compensation paid by him, whether or not collected from the employee. If the employer deducts less than the correct amount of employee tax or fails to deduct any part of the tax, he is nevertheless liable for the correct amount of the tax. Until collected from him, the employee is also liable for the employee tax. Any employee tax collected by or on behalf of an employer is a special fund in trust for the United States. See section 7501. An employer is not liable to any person for the amount of the employee tax deducted by him and paid to the district director.

(f) *Concurrent employment.* If two or more related corporations who are rail employers concurrently employ the same individual and compensate that individual through a common paymaster, which is one of the related cor-

porations employing the individual, see § 31.3121(s)-1.

[T.D. 6516, 25 FR 13032, Dec. 20, 1960, as amended by T.D. 6541, 26 FR 553, Jan 20, 1961; T.D. 6727, 29 FR 5866, May 5, 1964; T.D. 8582, 59 FR 66189, Dec. 23, 1994]

### TAX ON EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES

#### § 31.3211-1 Measure of employee representative tax.

The employee representative tax is measured by the amount of compensation received for services rendered as an employee representative. For provisions relating to compensation, see § 31.3231(e)-1.

[T.D. 8582, 59 FR 66190, Dec. 23, 1994]

#### § 31.3211-2 Rates and computation of employee representative tax.

(a) *Rates*—(1)(i) *Tier 1 tax.* The Tier 1 employee representative tax rate equals the sum of the tax rates in effect under sections 3101(a) and 3111(a), relating to the employee and the employer tax for old-age, survivors, and disability insurance, and sections 3101(b) and 3111(b), relating to the employee and the employer tax for hospital insurance. The Tier 1 employee representative tax rate is applied to compensation up to the contribution base described in section 3231(e)(2)(B)(i). The contribution base is determined under section 230 of the Social Security Act, and is identical to the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance wage base and the hospital insurance wage base, respectively, under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act.

(ii) *Example.* The rule in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section is illustrated by the following example.

*Example.* B, an employee representative, received compensation of \$60,000 in 1992. The sections 3101(a) and 3111(a) rates of 12.4 percent (6.2 percent plus 6.2 percent) would be applied to B's compensation up to \$55,500, the applicable contribution base for 1992. The sections 3101(b) and 3111(b) rates of 2.9 percent (1.45 percent plus 1.45 percent) would be applied to the entire \$60,000 of B's compensation because the applicable contribution base for 1992 is \$130,200.